

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01700 271218Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00
OPR-02 IO-14 ACDA-10 NEA-10 EURE-00 /096 W
-----096965 271227Z /40

O P 271142Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4815
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
CINCUSAREUR

UNCLAS USBERLIN 1700

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS, AEAGC-COC

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS, WB
SUBJ: SUSPECTED CRIMINAL KILLED BY POLICE IN FRONT OF US
HEADQUARTERS

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 0640 HOURS JUNE 27, WEST BERLIN
CRIMINAL POLICE SHOT AND KILLED AT INTERSECTION ACROSS
FROM US HEADQUARTERS COMPOUND A MAN TENTATIVELY
IDENTIFIED AS A PALESTINIAN/ARAB, WHO WAS SUSPECTED OF
PLANNING THE ROBBERY OF A NEARBY BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT.
INVESTIGATION OF KILLING IS CONTINUING, BUT FOLLOWING IS
THE SUM OF INFORMATION CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FROM POLICE
SOURCES.

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2. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 26 (SUNDAY), CENTRAL
CRIMINAL POLICE DUTY OFFICER RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL
FROM A MAN IDENTIFYING HIMSELF AS PALESTINIAN/
ARAB WHO INFORMED THE POLICE OF A ROBBERY AGAINST A
BERLIN-ZEHLENDORF BOARDING HOUSE RESTAURANT (OWNED
BY AN ITALIAN BUSINESSMAN) WHILE HE AND TWO OTHER ARABS
WERE PLANNING TO COMMIT IN THE FOLLOWING 24 HOURS.

THE INTENDED ROBBERY SITE IS LOCATED ON CLAYALLE AND MEISENSTRASSE WHICH IS A SHORT TWO BLOCKS NORTH OF THE HEADQUARTERS COMPOUND. ALTHOUGH A DESCRIPTION WAS GIVEN OF THE TWO OTHER MEN, WHO WERE ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED, THE CALLER REFUSED TO NAME EITHER INDIVIDUAL.

3. THE AREA AROUND THE BUSINESS WAS PLACED UNDER IMMEDIATE SURVEILLANCE BY THE CRIMINAL POLICE. DURING THE EVENING OF JUNE 26, THE MEN ANSWERING THE GENRAL DESCRIPTION, WERE OBSERVED IN A CAR NEAR THE RESTAURANT, APPARENTLY WAITING FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE OWNER. DURING THE NIGHT THE TWO CHANGED THE BERLIN LICENSE PLATES OF THIS CAR TO CUSTOMS PLATES. THE TWO REMAINED UNDER OBSERVATION BY THE POLICE THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT AND AT 0640 JUNE 27, THE POLICE DECIDED TO DETAIN THEM FOR QUESTIONING WHILE THEY WERE WALKING IN THE VICINITY. THE POLICE ORDERED THEM TO HALT, WHEREUPON ONE OF THEM TREATENINGLY REACHED IN HIS POCKET. THE OFFICE FIRED ONE SHOT, KILLING THE MAN INSTANTLY. SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION DETERMINED THAT THE DECEASED WAS NOT ARMED, BUT HE DID HAVE AKNIFE IN HIS POSSESSION. HIS IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED, ALTHOUGH HE IS BELIEVED TO BE OF PALESTINIAN/ARAB BACKGROUND. ACCORDING TO POLICE, THE CALLER HAD DESCRIBED THIS INDIVIDUAL AS "EXTREMELY AGGRESSIVE AND USUALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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ARMED", THEREFORE, THE POLICEMAN WHO FIRED, ASSUMED THE SUSPECT WAS REACHING FOR A WEAPON WHEN HE REACHED IN HIS POCKET.

4. SECOND MAN IN THIS INCIDENT SURRENDERED AT THE SCENE TO THE POLICE AND IS NOW IN CUSTODY. HE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS MOHAMMED ALTAR, A LABORER, BORN NOVEMBER 27, 1952 IN AGABET, JORDAN, PRESENTLY RESIDING IN THE NEUKOELLN DISTRICT OF BERLIN. HE CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN ENROUTE TO A JOB PROSPECT, AND NOT TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE PLANNED ROBBERY, OR TO HAVE KNOWN THE SUSPECT SHOT BY THE POLICE.

5. COMMENT: ON THE BASIS OF THE INITIAL INVESTIGATION, THIS INCIDENT APPEARS TO BE SOLELY A CRIMINAL POLICE MATTER WITH NO RPT NOT POLITICAL MOTIVATION.

6. USCOB CONCURS.DAVIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, INVESTIGATIONS, POLICE FORCES, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL01700
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770228-1044
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770614/aaaaalzt.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: ee4eda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2020784
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUSPECTED CRIMINAL KILLED BY POLICE IN FRONT OF US HEADQUARTERS
TAGS: PINS, WB
To: BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ee4eda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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US Department of State
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22 May 2009
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